

News Release

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COUNTY GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS TEAM WINS AWARD FOR SURVEY MAPPING APPLICATION

FREDERICK, MD – The Frederick Board of County Commissioners today recognized the achievements of the Enterprise Geographic Information Systems (GIS) team of the Interagency Information Technologies Division. The team was recently selected to receive the 2010 ESRI SAG (Special Achievements in GIS) Award at the 30th Annual ESRI International User Conference to be held this summer.

For the second time in four years, the Enterprise GIS team has received this special achievement award, this time for its unique on-line survey mapping application. The application was developed at the request of the Frederick County Division of Public Works and is accessible on the Frederick County Government website at www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/GIS.

One in every 1,000 nominations receives the award from over 100,000 entries worldwide. In 2007, the application was recognized under the "state and local government" category. The 2010 award recognizes the application under the "surveying" category.

Board President Jan Gardner commented, "We are pleased to recognize our Enterprise GIS team for such a distinguished accomplishment. This international award points to the important GIS contributions and services that benefit the citizens of Frederick County as well as the global on-line community."

SAG awards are presented to organizations that have embraced GIS technology, made extraordinary contributions to the global society and set new precedents throughout the GIS community. Frederick County's enterprise approach includes centralized functions such as the development and maintenance of core data layers, development of data standards, system administration and general oversight of GIS activities countywide.

County Geographic Information Systems Team Wins Award - Page Two

The Frederick County Enterprise GIS team supports county government divisions with their extensive variety of GIS needs.

The team assists the Public Works Division with snow plow route mapping; provides GIS base data to the Planning Division to help produce the county's comprehensive plan maps and prepare for the 2010 census; aides the Emergency Management Division with GIS data resources to establish county-wide response plans and mapping support for the Emergency Communications Center; created an on-line mapping service to highlight the availability of business parks and retail centers for the Economic Development Division, devised an on-line mapping application for the Sheriff's Office that allows citizens to identify where sexual offenders reside and view current and historical crime data, and assists Frederick County Public Schools administrative staff in determining which school district a student should be attending and school bus routing.

Beyond its own implementation, the county's team supports GIS coordination programs and committees benefiting local, state and federal efforts. Examples of this are the team's active role to promote coordinated development and efficient use of GIS technologies through the Maryland State Geographic Information Committee.

The team also participated in the drafting of a Strategic GIS Coordination Plan for Maryland, which has extended a broader understanding of the functions and importance of GIS in all levels of government and is helping Maryland set the standard for what collaborative GIS can accomplish.

For further information on the Frederick County Enterprise GIS team, visit www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/GIS or contact Strategic Systems Manager Marshall Stevenson at 301-600-2310 or via e-mail at mstevenson@FrederickCountyMD.gov.

To learn more about the SAG award winners, visit www.esri.com/sag or go to www.esri.com for more information about GIS technology and its applications.